

## SSI In Vermont

People in financial need who are age 65 or older or people of any age (including children) who are blind or have a disability may be eligible for monthly cash payments from the federal government. The payments are called Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

You may be eligible for SSI payments if you have little or no income, and if the value of the things you own is less than \$2,000 if you are single, or \$3,000 if you are married. We do not count the value of your home. We usually do not count the value of your car. We may not count some other assets. Call us for more information.

Also, you must live in the U.S. or the Northern Mariana Islands **and** be in one of the following groups:

- U.S. citizens or nationals;
- certain American Indians;
- lawful permanent residents with 40 work credits;
- certain noncitizens with a military service connection, and their spouses or unmarried dependent children;
- certain noncitizens lawfully residing in the U.S. who are blind or disabled, or who *were receiving* SSI on August 22, 1996; or
- certain Amerasian immigrants, Cuban/Haitian entrants, refugees, asylees or people whose deportation or removal has been withheld and who may be eligible for seven years after the date their immigration status was granted.

For more information about noncitizen eligibility requirements, ask for the factsheet, *Supplemental Security Income for Noncitizens* (Publication No. 05-11051).

Also, you must apply for any other money benefits for which you may be eligible.

Even though we run the program, SSI is not the same as Social Security. Money for SSI payments comes from the general fund of the U.S. Treasury.

The state of Vermont adds money to the federal payment. For your convenience, the state of Vermont and the federal government have agreed to include the amount in the federal payment. You receive one payment during the first week of each month that includes both federal and state money.

The back of this factsheet shows the year 2003 maximum monthly payment amounts for different living arrangements.

## Medical Assistance

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If you receive SSI, you usually can get medical assistance (Medicaid) automatically. A separate Medicaid application isn't necessary. If you have questions about Medicaid, you should contact your local department of Prevention Assistance Transition and Health Access Offices (PATH).

## Food Stamps

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If you receive SSI, you also may be eligible for food stamps. Food stamps can help you buy more food without spending more money. We don't decide if you can get food stamps. However, if you live in a household where everyone is applying for or receiving SSI, you can apply for food stamps at a Social Security office.

## Other Social Services

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Additional social services are available to SSI recipients through their local department of social welfare. These services include:

- information, referral and follow-up services;
- homemaker and chore services;
- community placement services; and
- rehabilitation services.

For more information on these and other social services, contact your local office.

## SSI Payments

The amounts below include both federal and state money. Not all SSI recipients receive the maximum payment amounts. Payments may be lower if you have other income. You can get more information about payment levels and how income affects them from your local office.

In addition to monthly payments, people who have special or emergency needs can apply for additional funds at the office of their local department of PATH.

## For More Information

Check our website at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) for answers to many of the questions you may have and for other Social Security services you may need. You can order publications and forms, use our online Retirement and Benefits Planners, request to receive *eNews*, our free electronic newsletter, and even file for retirement online. Or you may call us toll-free at **1-800-772-1213**. We can answer specific questions by phone from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. on business days and provide information by automated phone service 24 hours a day. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you may call our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on business days.

We treat all calls confidentially—whether they're made to our toll-free numbers or to a local office. We also want to make sure you receive accurate and courteous service, so a second Social Security representative monitors some incoming and outgoing calls.

### SSI Payment Levels

	Individual	Couple
Independent Living	\$604.04	\$927.88
Household of Another	407.30	600.98
Assistive Community Care	600.38	925.77
Licensed Community Care Home	775.94	1,391.06
Custodial "Family" Home	650.69	1,161.82
Medicaid Facility	47.66	95.33

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